

Federal grants will support the hiring of firefighters and the retention of volunteer firefighters

Burlington County - Congressman John Adler today announced more than \$70,000 in federal grant funds for two local fire departments. The grants are intended to support the hiring of firefighters and the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters at the Magnolia Road Fire Company in Pemberton and the Medford Lakes Fire Department.

"Our career and volunteer firefighters put their lives on the line everyday to protect our families, neighbors, and communities," Congressman Adler said. "Our firefighters and taxpayers deserve to get their fair share of federal dollars."

Congressman Adler announced that Magnolia Road Fire Company will receive \$22,648 in federal money, and Medford Lakes will receive \$51,657.

"This funding will go a long way in supporting the brave men and women who serve and protect our communities," said Dennis Staples, Medford Lakes Fire Department Chief. "Congressman Adler has been a great supporter of our first responders and we look forward to working together in the future."

"On behalf of the men and women who serve our community with the Magnolia Road Fire Company and the Pemberton Township Volunteer Fire Department, I want to thank Congressman Adler for his support," Chief Craig Augustoni said. "This funding will help protect the brave first responders who put their life on the line, and the families and businesses in our community."

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded this grant under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. These funds will enhance the ability of fire departments to attain and maintain 24-hour staffing and to assure that our communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

Last year, Congressman Adler hosted several workshops to ensure local public safety departments were informed about the federal grant process. He also voted to pass the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act which provides \$800,000,000 for

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Assistance to Firefighters Grants. In addition, Congressman Adler supported the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which provided \$210,000,000 in Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) construction grants.